

K-2 | September 21

**Bible Story:** Rahab Helps the Spies • *Joshua 2 (Supporting: Joshua 6:22-25)*

**Bottom Line:** God can give you courage to help someone in need.

**Monthly Memory Verse:** *When I'm afraid, I put my trust in you. Psalm 56:3 (NirV)*

*Pray for your group before they arrive. Pray for kids who will visit your group for the first time. Thank God for the kids in your group and the unique ways He has made them! Recall a time God gave you the courage to help someone in need. Thank God for sending the Holy Spirit to guide you. Ask God to help you remind the kids that they don't have to be afraid to help others because God is always with them. Pray that the kids would understand that helping others is not about getting attention, but about sharing God's love with others. Ask God to help the kids recognize when He is leading them to take action.*

## 1. Opening Activity

**What You Need:** Prepared bag with nine Bingo cards inside, "Brave Acts Bingo" Activity Page, and pencils

### What You Do:

- Give every kid a "Brave Acts Bingo" Activity Page and a pencil.
- Say, "We're going to play a game that helps us think about all the different ways people can be brave, even when they feel afraid."

### Connect Together:

- Pull one Bingo card from the bag and read it aloud.
- If a kid has done that act of bravery before, invite them to mark that square on their board.
- Keep drawing cards until someone gets three in a row (across, up and down, or diagonally).
- Pause and ask:
  - "What does it take to be brave in these situations?"
  - "How do you think God helps you be brave when you're helping someone else?"

### What You Say:

"Wow! You've already done so many brave things, big and small. Some of you might not feel brave all the time, and that's totally okay. Even the bravest people get scared sometimes.

**[Transition] Let's go to Large Group to hear a story about someone God helped to be brave even when it was risky!"**

### **Inclusive Pro Tips:**

- Consider the needs of your group and adjust the activity accordingly.
- Be mindful of any kids who might not have had certain experiences yet. Affirm all responses!
- Allow kids to work in pairs if needed.

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

## 2. Paper Bag Puppet Theater

**What You Need:** Paper lunch bags, construction paper, glue sticks, markers, safety scissors, and a puppet example

### **What You Do:**

- Gather the kids together in a circle.
  - This activity can be done on the floor or at a table—whichever works best for your group!
- Give each kid a paper lunch bag.
- Show the puppet example and demonstrate how to place their hands inside like a puppet!
- Set out the markers, scissors, glue sticks, and construction paper.
- Invite the kids to decorate their puppet however they'd like.
  - Kids can draw eyes on the flap (bottom of the bag) and a mouth under the flap.
  - They can cut and glue construction paper to make clothes or hair.
- Divide the kids into groups of two. It's okay if there's a group of three.
- Instruct the kids to face each other with their finished puppets.
- Read the scenarios below, one at a time, and let the kids use the puppets to act out how they might respond to show courage and help in that situation.

### **Scenarios**

- Scenario 1: A kid in your class keeps getting left out by others. When you play a game at school, this kid is always picked last. How can you show courage and include them?
- Scenario 2: A kid fell off the swings at the playground, and everyone around them won't stop laughing. You can tell the kid is hurt, but no one is doing anything.

### **What You Say:**

"I love your puppets, friends! And, I love hearing you talk through what you might do in each of these scenarios! God is full of love and kindness. He sees EVERYONE! And He loves to give us the courage to be kind like He is! When we are kind like He is, we are showing people that God loves them too!

"And you aren't on your own when you're kind like Jesus! When you decided to follow Jesus, God moved inside of you through His Holy Spirit. He is closer than close! And as you go throughout your day, you'll feel a nudge from Him to help and do something. Maybe it's a classmate who's being left out, or a sibling who's struggling with something. They need help! And God will give you the courage and the strength to help! So just do what you feel Him nudging you to do. Jesus' very Spirit will lead you to be kind like He is!"

"I'm SO happy we don't have to be brave alone. God is always with us and wants to help us. This week, ask: 'God, please give me courage to help someone in need.' Because God will give you all the courage you need to help! He cares for you and for all the needs around you. He is kind and He loves people so much! Is there someone God is telling you to be brave and stand up for? **[Bottom Line] God can give you courage to help someone in need.**"

### ***Inclusive Pro Tips:***

- Consider the needs of your group and adjust the activity accordingly.
- Offer pre-cut shapes, stickers, and adaptive scissors.
- Repeat the instructions one step at a time and offer frequent encouragement.

### 3. Right on Target!

**What You Need:** Bible marked at Psalm 56:3, floor tape, and toy cars

**What You Do:**

- Invite an older kid to read Psalm 56:3 to the group from the marked Bible. (Or read it yourself, if needed!)
- Lead the kids to repeat the Memory Verse together several times.
- Review any words that might be unfamiliar to the kids.
- Use floor tape to create two circles like a bullseye target on the floor—like this @.
- Tape a starting line just a few feet away from the target.
- Give each kid a toy car. If you don't have a toy car for each kid, let them take turns.
- Explain how to play:
  - Invite kids to line up, side-by-side, and take turns rolling their cars toward the target.
  - If a car lands inside the target, the group is to repeat the Memory Verse together aloud.
  - If a car lands in the center of the target, the leader is to say the verse with lots of energy!
- Continue until every kid gets a turn.
- Gather the kids to discuss.

**What You Say:**

"That was super-fun! This verse is a BIG truth for us to remember. Who should we put our trust in? (*Invite responses.*) God—that's right! We can put our trust in God. Why? Well, because of WHO God is! God is strong. God is kind. God always keeps His promises. And, God will never leave us alone. Friends, that's why we can put our trust in God. Before we do anything brave, before we face fears, and before we help anyone—we can say this truth out loud: 'When I'm afraid, I put my trust in You, God!' That's a promise we can all hold onto!"

"No matter how big or small the situation is, God is always with you. God gives you His courage, not just regular courage. The kind of courage that helps you do the right thing even when it's hard. He is with us and promises to give us all the courage we need! You can put your trust or confidence in God, because **[Bottom Line] God can give you courage to help someone in need.**"

**Inclusive Pro Tips:**

- Consider the needs of your group and adjust the activity accordingly.
- Allow for extra processing time and repeat the verse several times.
- Allow kids to roll the car from wherever is most comfortable (from their chair, wheelchair, or from the floor).

## 4. Pray and Dismiss

**What You Need:** No supplies needed

**What You Do:**

- Sit in a circle with your group.
- Explain to kids that prayer is a conversation we can have with God anytime, anywhere, about anything!
- Say, “Let’s think of someone who might need help this week. It could be someone at school, home, or someone you saw who needed something.”
- On the count of three, invite the kids to whisper the name of the person they thought of.
  - *If kids don’t want to whisper the name, allow them to draw a heart in the air to show they have someone in mind.*
- Give the kids one minute to talk to God about that person.
- Close in prayer.

**What You Say:**

“God, thank You for always being with us. Thank You for loving us and sending Jesus to rescue us so that we can have a friendship with You—forever! Thank You for being so close to us through Your Holy Spirit. Teach us to listen to Him. And give us Your strength and courage when we see a need to so we can help! We love You so much, God. Thank You for loving us first. We pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage kids to show off their paper bag puppets as they talk about how **[Bottom Line] God can give you courage to help someone in need.**

**Inclusive Pro Tips:**

- Consider the needs of your group and adjust the activity accordingly.
- If a kid needs more space, allow them to sit outside the circle and still be included.
- Offer adaptive seating or fidget tools to all kids.



